



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 1388
Akihisa HONGO et al. : Docket No. 2001-0924A
Serial No. 09/891,472 : Group Art Unit 1742
Filed June 27, 2001 : Examiner Donald R. Valentine

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
FORMING INTERCONNECTS, AND
POLISHING LIQUID AND POLISHING
METHOD

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GROUP 1700
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ELECTION OF INVENTION

Commissioner for Patents
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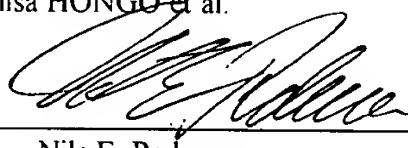
Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 3, 2003, Applicants in the above-referenced U.S. patent application hereby elect group III corresponding to claims 13-24 and 40-47, drawn to an apparatus for forming interconnects.

An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Akihisa HONGO et al.

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